



**City Commission Regular Meeting
MINUTES**

**April 20, 2023, 10:00 a.m.
City Hall Auditorium
200 East University Avenue
Gainesville, FL 32601**

Members Present: Mayor Ward, Commissioner Book,
Commissioner Chestnut, Mayor Pro
Tempore Duncan-Walker, Commissioner
Eastman, Commissioner Saco,
Commissioner Willits

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- A. CALL TO ORDER - 10:00 AM**
 - B. INVOCATION**

Pastor Karl Anderson, Upper Room Church of God in Christ

Heard

- C. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Moved by Commissioner Eastman

Seconded by Commissioner Saco

Motion: The City Commission adopt the regular and consent agenda.

Aye (7): Mayor Ward, Commissioner Book, Commissioner Chestnut, Mayor Pro
Tempore Duncan-Walker, Commissioner Eastman, Commissioner Saco, and
Commissioner Willits

Approved (7 to 0)

D. CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Commissioner Eastman

Seconded by Commissioner Saco

Approved On Consent

1. Approval of Minutes from the February 16, March 28, April 4, and April 6, 2023 Meetings (B)

Moved by Commissioner Eastman

Seconded by Commissioner Saco

Recommendation: The City Commission approve the minutes from February 16, March 28, April 4, and April 6, 2023.

Approved On Consent

2. 2023-295 Contract Award for Engineering and Design Services for Regional Transit System (RTS) Bus Stop Improvements (B)

Moved by Commissioner Eastman

Seconded by Commissioner Saco

Recommendation: The City Commission: 1) approve the recommended ranking; and 2) authorize the City Manager or designee to negotiate and execute a contract with the top-ranked firm or next-ranked firm if those negotiations are not successful, for Engineering and Design Services for Bus Stop Improvements, subject to approval by the City Attorney as to form and legality.

Approved On Consent

3. 2023-301 Contract with GIRO, Inc. for Maintenance and Support of HASTUS Fixed Route Scheduling Software (B)

Moved by Commissioner Eastman

Seconded by Commissioner Saco

Recommendation: The City Commission authorize the City Manager or designee to execute a contract with GIRO, Inc., subject to approval by the City Attorney as to form and legality.

Approved On Consent

4. 2023-302 Regional Transit System (RTS) Proposed Summer 2023 Transit Service Changes (B)

Moved by Commissioner Eastman

Seconded by Commissioner Saco

Recommendation: The City Commission review and approve the proposed Regional Transit System Summer 2023 Service Changes effective May 8, 2023.

Approved On Consent

5. 2023-334 Gainesville Regional Utilities Fiscal Year 2022 Audited Financial Statements, Independent Auditor's Reports, and Auditor's Communication to Those Charged with Governance and Management (B)

Moved by Commissioner Eastman

Seconded by Commissioner Saco

Recommendation: The Audit Committee recommends that the City Commission accept the GRU audited financial statements and independent auditor's reports.

Approved On Consent

6. 2023-370 Non-Compliance with Attendance Requirements (B)

Moved by Commissioner Eastman

Seconded by Commissioner Saco

Recommendation: The City Commission approve the removal of Cameron Bacchus from the City Beautification Board, effective immediately.

Approved On Consent

7. 2023-377 Bid Award for City Hall Network Cabling Project (B)

Moved by Commissioner Eastman

Seconded by Commissioner Saco

Recommendation: 1) award the bid to Energized Solutions Inc. for the City Hall Network Cabling project in the amount of \$143,386.44; and 2) authorize the City Manager or designee to execute all contract documents and other necessary documents for the execution of the project, subject to approval by the City Attorney as to form and legality.

Approved On Consent

8. 2023-392 Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Grant (B)

Moved by Commissioner Eastman

Seconded by Commissioner Saco

Recommendation: The City Commission authorize the City Manager to execute the grant award contract for \$25,667.50 and other necessary documents pending approval by the City Attorney as to form and legality.

Approved On Consent

E. EARLY PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

F. BUSINESS DISCUSSION ITEMS - MORNING

1. 2023-352 Quarterly Housing Update (B)

Cynthia Curry, City Manager introduced the item.

Corey Harris, Housing and Community Development Director gave a presentation.

Chelsea Bakaitis, Housing and Community Development Supervisor gave a presentation.

Andrew Persons, Special Advisor to the City Manager spoke to the item.

Yvette Carter, Director of Government Affairs and Community Relations spoke to the item.

Public Comment: Dottie Fabisy, Carolyn Edwards, Lena Gillis, Faye Williams, Chris Fillie

Recommendation: The City Commission: 1) hear the Quarterly Housing Update Presentation; and 2) authorize staff to finalize and move forward with the Pleasant Street and Porters Infill Opportunity Project next steps.

Heard

2. 2023-347 Request for Approval to Execute a Contract for Cost of Service and Utility Rate Studies with Baker Tilly US, LLP (B)

Anthony Cunningham, General Manager of Utilities introduced the item.

Karen Fiore, Rates and Economic Analysis Manager, GRU gave a presentation.

Public Comment: Donald Shepherd, Chuck Ross

Moved by Commissioner Willits

Seconded by Commissioner Saco

Recommendation: The City Commission authorize the General Manager or his designee to directly execute a contract with Baker Tilly US, LLP, subject to approval by the City Attorney as to form and legality. At their 4/13/23 meeting, the UAB voted unanimously to advise the City Commission to approve the staff recommendation.

Motion: Approve as Recommended.

Aye (7): Mayor Ward, Commissioner Book, Commissioner Chestnut, Mayor Pro Tempore Duncan-Walker, Commissioner Eastman, Commissioner Saco, and Commissioner Willits

Approved (7 to 0)

Recess - 11:38 AM

G. RESOLUTIONS – MORNING (Roll Call Required)

12:00-1:00 PM Lunch Break

H. CALL TO ORDER – 1:00 PM

I. GAINESVILLE HISTORY MOMENT

Donna Waller spoke on Gainesville's Environmental History.

Anthony Cunningham, General Manager of Utilities spoke to History Moment.

Commissioner Chestnut arrived at 1:11 PM.

Heard

J. EARLY PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

K. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Meg Niederhofer, Nancy Deren

L. BUSINESS DISCUSSION ITEMS - AFTERNOON

1. 2023-139 GRU Solar Contract (B)

Anthony Cunningham, General Manager of Utilities introduced the item.

Eric Walters, Chief Sustainability Officer, GRU gave a presentation.

Public Comment: Dr. Jeffrey Shapiro, Nancy Deren

Moved by Commissioner Saco

Seconded by Commissioner Willits

Recommendation: 1. The City Commission authorize the General Manager or his designee to execute contract Amendment 2 and other agreements as required with FL Solar 6, LLC, in general agreement with the draft amendment dated February 2, 2023 subject to approval by the City Attorney as to form and legality; and 2. The City of Gainesville not encourage future solar development on the previously denied parcel due to its proximity to a historic, rural African American community and cemetery.

Motion: Approve as Recommended.

Aye (7): Mayor Ward, Commissioner Book, Commissioner Chestnut, Mayor Pro Tempore Duncan-Walker, Commissioner Eastman, Commissioner Saco, and Commissioner Willits

Approved (7 to 0)

- M. RESOLUTIONS - AFTERNOON (Roll Call Required)
- N. ORDINANCES: ADOPTION READING - AFTERNOON (Roll Call Required)
- O. ORDINANCES: SECOND READING - AFTERNOON (Roll Call Required)

1. **2022-680 LD22-142 Sidewalk Text Amendment (B)**

Andrew Persons, Special Advisor to the City Manager spoke to the item.

Christopher Wolf, Graduate from UF Urban and Regional Planning spoke to the item.

Juan Castillo, Planner III spoke to the item.

Public Comment: Donald Shepherd

Moved by Commissioner Saco

Seconded by Commissioner Eastman

Recommendation: The City Commission adopt the proposed ordinance.

Motion: Adopt Version C

Aye (7): Mayor Ward, Commissioner Book, Commissioner Chestnut, Mayor Pro Tempore Duncan-Walker, Commissioner Eastman, Commissioner Saco, and Commissioner Willits

Approved (7 to 0)

GAINESVILLE HISTORY MOMENT

Vivian Filer spoke about healthcare in Alachua County.

2. **2023-243 Ordinance Changing the Methodology for Calculating Commissioner Salaries (B)**

Moved by Commissioner Chestnut

Seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Duncan-Walker

Recommendation: The City Commission adopt the proposed ordinance.

Motion: Approve as Recommended.

Aye (5): Mayor Ward, Commissioner Book, Commissioner Chestnut, Mayor Pro Tempore Duncan-Walker, and Commissioner Eastman

Nay (2): Commissioner Saco, and Commissioner Willits

Approved (5 to 2)

P. ORDINANCES: FIRST READING - AFTERNOON (Roll Call Required)

1. 2022-707 LD22-000130 Text Amendment Centerline of Street Setback Measurement (B)

Bedez Massey, Planner I gave a presentation.

Brittany McMullen, Planner IV spoke to the item.

Moved by Commissioner Eastman

Seconded by Commissioner Chestnut

Recommendation: The City Commission adopt the proposed ordinance.

Motion: Approve as Recommended.

Aye (6): Mayor Ward, Commissioner Book, Commissioner Chestnut, Mayor Pro Tempore Duncan-Walker, Commissioner Eastman, and Commissioner Saco

Absent (1): Commissioner Willits

Approved (6 to 0)

2. 2022-747 Rosier Voluntary Annexation Petitions for 12.60 Acres of Property on SW 47th Way (B)

Jason Simmons, Planner I gave a presentation.

Fred Roberts spoke to the item.

Moved by Commissioner Chestnut

Seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Duncan-Walker

Recommendation: The City Commission adopt the proposed ordinance.

Motion: Approve as Recommended.

Aye (6): Mayor Ward, Commissioner Book, Commissioner Chestnut, Mayor Pro Tempore Duncan-Walker, Commissioner Eastman, and Commissioner Saco

Absent (1): Commissioner Willits

Approved (6 to 0)

Q. COMMISSION COMMENT

Moved by Commissioner Book

Seconded by Commissioner Eastman

Motion: 1) Rescind 2023-274 prior motion to remove tree; and 2) Direct staff to pursue plan to save tree using tree mitigation funds available resolving accessibility issues.

Aye (7): Mayor Ward, Commissioner Book, Commissioner Chestnut, Mayor Pro Tempore Duncan-Walker, Commissioner Eastman, Commissioner Saco, and Commissioner Willits

Approved (7 to 0)

Public Comment: Donald Shepherd

Commissioner Chestnut - Letter of resignation from City Clerk. Sad, but commends work of the City Clerk. Moved the city forward by leaps and bounds. Thanks for service.

Mayor Ward - Without objection would like to add an agenda item for Interim City Clerk to the May 4, 2023 agenda.

Recess - 3:47 PM

4:30 - 5:30 PM Dinner Break

R. CALL TO ORDER - 5:30 PM

S. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

St. Patrick's Catholic School Student Government

T. PROCLAMATIONS & SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

1. 2023-394 Law Enforcement Torch Run Day (B)

Recommendation: To be presented to Gainesville Police Chief Lonnie Scott, Sr.

Heard

U. EARLY PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

V. RESOLUTIONS - ROLL CALL REQUIRED

W. BUSINESS DISCUSSION ITEMS - EVENING

X. PUBLIC HEARINGS (Including Planning Petitions)

Y. ORDINANCES: ADOPTION READING - EVENING (Roll Call Required)

1. 2023-75 Gainesville 60 Land Use Amendment (B)

Brittany McMullen, Planner IV gave a presentation.

Clay Sweger, EDA gave a presentation.

Jenny Ford spoke to the item.

Public Comment: Sharon Johnson, Dana Ulmer, Mark Stove

Moved by Commissioner Chestnut

Seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Duncan-Walker

Recommendation: The City Commission adopt the proposed ordinance.

Motion: Approve as Recommended.

Aye (6): Mayor Ward, Commissioner Book, Commissioner Chestnut, Mayor Pro Tempore Duncan-Walker, Commissioner Eastman, and Commissioner Willits

Absent (1): Commissioner Saco

Approved (6 to 0)

2. 2023-76 Gainesville 60 Zoning Change (B)

Brittany McMullen, Planner IV spoke to the item.

Moved by Commissioner Chestnut

Seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Duncan-Walker

Recommendation: The City Commission adopt the proposed ordinance

Motion: Approve as Recommended.

Aye (6): Mayor Ward, Commissioner Book, Commissioner Chestnut, Mayor Pro Tempore Duncan-Walker, Commissioner Eastman, and Commissioner Willits

Absent (1): Commissioner Saco

Approved (6 to 0)

3. 2023-77 Oak Gate Land Use Amendment (B)

Phimetto Lewis, Planner III gave a presentation.

Clay Sweger, EDA gave a presentation.

Andrew Persons, Special Advisor to the City Manager spoke to the item.

Moved by Commissioner Eastman

Seconded by Commissioner Chestnut

Recommendation: The City Commission adopt the proposed ordinance.

Motion: Approve as Recommended.

Aye (6): Mayor Ward, Commissioner Book, Commissioner Chestnut, Mayor Pro Tempore Duncan-Walker, Commissioner Eastman, and Commissioner Willits

Absent (1): Commissioner Saco

Approved (6 to 0)

Z. ORDINANCES: SECOND READING - EVENING (Roll Call Required)

AA. ORDINANCES: FIRST READING - EVENING (Roll Call Required)

1. 2023-78 Oak Gate Zoning Amendment (B)

Moved by Commissioner Willits

Seconded by Commissioner Eastman

Recommendation: The City Commission adopt the proposed ordinance.

Motion: Approve as Recommended.

Aye (6): Mayor Ward, Commissioner Book, Commissioner Chestnut, Mayor Pro Tempore Duncan-Walker, Commissioner Eastman, and Commissioner Willits

Absent (1): Commissioner Saco

Approved (6 to 0)

2. 2023-79 Rural King Planned Development Amendment (B)

Phimetto Lewis, Planner III gave a presentation.

Clay Sweger, EDA gave a presentation.

Forrest Eddleton, Interim Director of Sustainable Development spoke to the item.

Public Comment: Ron Nichols, Donald Shepherd

Moved by Commissioner Eastman

Seconded by Commissioner Chestnut

Recommendation: The City Commission adopt the proposed ordinance.

Motion: Moved on 1st reading; adopt with condition of finding a solution to 6-foot fence before coming back for a second reading.

Aye (6): Mayor Ward, Commissioner Book, Commissioner Chestnut, Mayor Pro Tempore Duncan-Walker, Commissioner Eastman, and Commissioner Willits

Absent (1): Commissioner Saco

Approved (6 to 0)

AB. COMMISSION COMMENT

Commissioner Duncan-Walker - Preservation

Moved by Mayor Pro Tempore Duncan-Walker

Seconded by Commissioner Book

Motion: City Commission direct Planning staff to develop a text amendment to the Land Development Code to require a setback requirement for development abutting cemeteries.

Aye (6): Mayor Ward, Commissioner Book, Commissioner Chestnut, Mayor Pro Tempore Duncan-Walker, Commissioner Eastman, and Commissioner Willits

Absent (1): Commissioner Saco

Approved (6 to 0)

Commissioner Eastman - Bands playing at Minimum Maximum Warehouse.

The musicians were evicted by Santa Fe Foundation. Would like to understand why this happened. Music/Culture is an important part of our community. Special

Advisor Andrew Persons spoke to the matter.

AC. ADJOURNMENT - 10:00 PM OR EARLIER

Omichele D. Nattiel-Williams, IIMC-CMC, City Clerk